FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 20, 2018

**HAYLEY KIYOKO WINS PUSH ARTIST OF THE YEAR AT THE #20GAYTEEN MTV VMAS**

**GIVES HEARTFELT ACCEPTANCE SPEECH – WATCH** [**HERE**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6VAriQOURk)

**PERFORMS “CURIOUS” FROM HER** **CRITICALLY-ACCLAIMED DEBUT ALBUM *EXPECTATIONS***

**Hayley Kiyoko** has officially taken **#20GAYTEEN** (coined by Hayley and her fans) to new heights after winning the **Push Artist Of The Year** award at this year’s **MTV VMAs** held earlier tonight in New York City. Watch her heartfelt acceptance speech [HERE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6VAriQOURk). Nominated in both Best New Artist and Push Artist Of The Year categories, the rising pop star attended her first-ever MTV VMAs and gave an infectious performance of “[Curious](https://atlantic.lnk.to/curiousID),” the lead single from her critically-acclaimed debut album ***EXPECTATIONS***, during the telecast.

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Hayley has been taking #20GAYTEEN by storm with *EXPECTATIONS*, which has propelled her into one of the most celebrated new artists in the pop landscape. According to *Rolling Stone*, “her latest singles – ‘Curious’ and ‘What I Need’ (featuring Kehlani) – have placed her at the forefront of an unapologetically queer pop movement, and she turned 2018 into "#20GayTeen" with the release of her long-awaited debut LP.” In April Hayley made her Coachella festival debut before heading out on her nationwide headline EXPECTATIONS tour which sold out two New York shows at Irving Plaza, plus dates in San Francisco, Chicago, Boston, Toronto and Philadelphia and more. Soon after, she embarked on her first-ever arena tour as a special guest on **Panic! At The Disco**’s “Pray For The Wicked Tour.” While overlapping on tour in Boston, pop icon **Taylor Swift** brought Hayley out as a surprise guest on her Reputation World Tour stop at Foxborough, MA’s Gillette Stadium.  The two performed “[Curious](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/6AU1C5y1L6F4ZVOks2YN6e)” – watch [HERE](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/fK_eC73WXjuoAO9GHRpURz). This summer, Kiyoko stunned on the covers of [NYLON](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/3nGjC82BEkcL67xNhz2pAh)’s June issue and [PAPER](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/pjxtC9rLglI9k5P4tZRN4g)’s digital PRIDE cover series. While in New York during Pride Week, Kiyoko stopped by *Late Night with Seth Meyers* to perform fan-favorite “[He’ll Never Love You (HNLY)](https://youtu.be/bFuCt58y5ZI),” surrounded by four dancers and sassy choreography. The performance followed her applauded late-night debut in April on ABC’s *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, where she won over the audience performing her single “[Curious](https://youtu.be/o6V2ikO_CDY)” and fan-favorite “[Let It Be](https://youtu.be/p6za96Pi9wc).”

**WATCH THE SELF-DIRECTED MUSIC VIDEO FOR “WHAT I NEED” FEAT. KEHLANI**

<https://atlanti.cr/whatineed>



**WHAT CRITICS ARE SAYING ABOUT *EXPECTATIONS:***

*“An unapologetically queer pop masterpiece for 20gay-teen”*



*“Hayley Kiyoko is the 'Lesbian Jesus' Resurrecting Pop”*



*“Hayley is exactly what we need from a pop star in 2018”*



*“The record solidifies Kiyoko as one of the few modern artists who is able to unapologetically capture the queer female experience through pop music.”*



*“Not only is Kiyoko one of the only openly queer pop stars signed to a major label, she's a major pop force to be reckoned with, all labels aside.”*



*“Expectations at its best: Kiyoko trading in specificity rather than generic neediness, representing an experience that rarely finds an outlet in pop.”*



*“(Expectations) doesn’t feel like a debut as much as it feels like the start of something big, comparable to Lady Gaga’s debut ‘The Fame,’ in the more carefree days before she became Mother Monster. It’s a solid introduction from start to finish.”*



*“It's a delightful pop album bursting with queer anthems and harrowing vulnerability. Expect big things from her. This is Kiyoko's year”*



*"Vulnerable and honest, packaged with slick future pop production."*



*“Hayley Kiyoko Is The Unapologetically Queer Pop Star We’ve Been Waiting For”*



**LISTEN TO *EXPECTATIONS* NOW**

<https://atlantic.lnk.to/Expectations>

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**CONNECT WITH HAYLEY KIYOKO:**

[WEBSITE](http://www.hayleykiyokoofficial.com/) | [FACEBOOK](https://www.facebook.com/HayleyKiyoko/) | [TWITTER](https://twitter.com/HayleyKiyoko) | [INSTAGRAM](https://www.instagram.com/hayleykiyoko/) | [YOUTUBE](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC00X4AUEmat8Pk772tDu8OA) | [PRESS TOOLS](http://press.atlanticrecords.com/hayley-kiyoko/)

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